

REMARKS

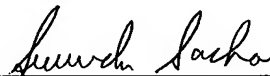
Favorable consideration of this Application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 17-20 are pending in the present Application. Claim 1 is canceled without prejudice or disclaimer and new Claims 17-20 are presented. Applicants submit that no new matter has been introduced via this Amendment.

In view of the foregoing discussion and present amendment, it is respectfully submitted that this Application is in condition for examination. An early and favorable action is therefore respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,  
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



James J. Kulbaski  
Attorney of Record  
Registration No. 34,648

Scott A. McKeown  
Registration No. 42,866

Surinder Sachar  
Registration No. 34,423

Customer Number

**22850**

Tel: (703) 413-3000  
Fax: (703) 413 -2220  
(OSMMN 06/04)